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Letter dated 6 June 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as Chair of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement, I have the honour to enclose herewith a copy of the letter from Felipe

Pérez Roque, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba, to Frank-Walter Steinmeier, Federal Minister for External Affairs of Germany, on the occasion of the thirty-third Summit of the Group of Eight Industrialized Countries (G-8) (see annex).

The annexed letter conveys to the presidency and the other leaders of the G-8 the viewpoints and positions of the Non-Aligned Movement on issues of particular relevance and priority to its membership, including those to be raised at the thirty-third Summit, which is being held in Heiligendamm, Germany.

I kindly request that the present letter and its annex be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 11, 13, 14, 18, 31, 32, 40, 41, 42, 44, 45, 47, 48, 51, 52, 53, 55, 57, 58, 60, 62, 66, 67, 68, 69, 79, 80, 81, 90, 91, 92, 96, 100, 110, 112 and 113, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Rodrigo **Malmierca Díaz**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Cuba

Annex to the letter dated 6 June 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and Spanish]

Havana, 6 June 2007

Following the established practice, I am writing to you, in our capacity as President of the Non-Aligned Movement and on behalf of the 118 member countries of the grouping, in order to convey to you, and through you to the other leaders of the Group of Eight Industrialized Countries, the viewpoints and positions of the Movement on issues of particular relevance and priority to its membership, including those to be raised right at the 33rd Summit that is taking place in Heiligendamm, Germany.

I would appreciate it if you were kind enough to convey this message to H.E. Mrs. Angela Merkel, Federal Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, so that it can be circulated among the distinguished participants in the Summit.

At the XIV Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement, held in Havana, Cuba, in September 2006, the leaders of the non-aligned countries decided to create, expand and deepen more dynamic relations and cooperation with the developed and industrialized countries, particularly with the G-8. The Summit in Havana underscored that such cooperation must be profoundly based on mutual respect and benefits, shared and differentiated responsibility, constructive commitment and dialogue, broad-based partnership and real interdependency, with a view to drafting responses or initiatives on world issues and facilitating greater understanding between the North and the South.

The objective is to ensure that the opinions of the developing countries are fully heeded before the developed countries make decisions on matters affecting the countries of the South and the international community as a whole.

We are aware that during the German Presidency of the G-8 your country intends to give new momentum to, deepen and adopt concrete initiatives on issues of particular importance to the international agenda, such as investments and the social dimension of globalization, the enhancement of intellectual property, the access to sources of raw materials, energy and climate change and Africa's growth and economic development, among other matters, all of which are of tremendous interest and priority to the non-aligned countries.

In assessing the international situation, the Movement believes that the current world scenario poses great challenges in the fields of peace and security, economic development and social progress, human rights and the rule of law. That underpins the renewal of the international community's commitment to the ratification and defence of the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of International Law.

There are still fundamental obstacles impeding the establishment of a peaceful and prosperous world, as well as a just and equitable world order, based on the UN Charter and International Law. These include the ongoing lack of resources and the underdevelopment of most of the world, the lack of cooperation and the coercive and unilateral measures imposed by some developed countries, the excessive influence exerted by the rich countries in determining the nature, direction and rules of international

relations, including economic and trading relations, many of which are put in place at the expense of developing countries.

Underdevelopment, poverty, hunger and marginalization have been further aggravated as a result of the ongoing process of globalization, worsening the structural imbalances and the inequities that affect the international economic order. The security and well-being of our nations are confronted with unprecedented challenges.

There is also a great deal of concern about the recent use of unilateralism and the measures imposed on a unilateral basis, which undermine the Charter of the United Nations and International Law. Therefore, the Movement has reiterated its commitment to the promotion, preservation and strengthening of multilateralism and the multilateral decision-making process under the auspices of the United Nations, with strict adherence to its Charter and to International Law, in order to build a just and equitable world order and world democratic governance, and not one based on the monopoly of a handful of wealthy nations.

To the Movement, its founding principles retain their full validity, including the condemnation of genocide, the war crimes, the crimes against humanity and the systematic and overt human rights violations, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and International Law.

The NAM believes that globalization presents opportunities, challenges and risks to the future and the viability of the developing countries. The process of trade globalization and liberalization has brought about unequal benefits among and within the States, and the world economy has been marked by slow, asymmetrical growth and instability. In its current form, globalization perpetuates and even increases the marginalization of developing nations.

Therefore, globalization has to be transformed into a positive force of change for all the peoples, benefiting the largest number of countries and fostering the prosperity and enhancement of the developing nations, refraining from aggravating their continuous impoverishment and dependence on the developed world. The G-8 can play a decisive role in this regard.

Besides, greater efforts have to be made in order to generate a worldwide strategy that attaches priority to the dimension of development in world processes, so that developing countries can benefit from the opportunities offered by trade globalization and liberalization, through, inter alia, the creation of an external economic environment conducive to development, which demands greater coherence among the international commercial, monetary and financial systems.

It is imperative to integrate the dimensions of development into the formulation of international norms, and the international community must take into consideration the need for flexibility and some room for the national policy of the countries, while taking on international commitments.

Joint work must be undertaken to achieve a multilateral trading system that is universal, regularized, predictable, open, non-discriminatory and equitable, and to reach a balanced, development-oriented and fruitful conclusion of the Doha Round, instrumental in shaping globalization as a positive force where everyone can equally share its benefits.

The NAM has expressed its serious concern about the ongoing stagnation of the negotiations in all fields of the Doha Work Programme, and it has pointed out that the main cause has been the delay of the developed countries in keeping the development-

oriented promises of the Doha Round. In that sense, it has called upon the developed countries to show the necessary flexibility and political will in order to put an end to the current stalemate in negotiations.

We attach particular importance to the realization of all the areas of the Doha Work Programme, especially agriculture, the access to the markets of non-agricultural products, services, the norms and standards of the Trade-Related Intellectual Property System (TRIPS) Agreements, as well as special and differentiated, viable and appropriate treatment for developing countries.

The Movement has emphasized that States have to honor the commitments entered into in terms of development, underscoring the need for those developed countries that have failed to do so yet to set deadlines for the supply of the internationally agreed Official Development Assistance of 0.7% of GNP of the donor countries.

The non-aligned countries have also insisted on the need to find a timely, efficient, extensive, equitable and lasting solution to the problem of the foreign debts of developing countries, particularly through the total cancellation of the debt and the increasing financial flows under concession terms, as well as through the conversion of the debt into an element leading to sustainable development.

It is useful that the German Presidency of the G-8 has put the issue of enhanced intellectual property on the table. The non-aligned countries, together with the G-77 plus China, have called for the expeditious integration of the dimensions of development into the norms and standards of the intellectual property regime and for the facilitation of the transfer of technology and knowledge to the developing countries.

We have also called for speedier negotiations on the mandate pertaining to the implementation of the Agreement on the Legal Aspects of Intellectual Property Relating to Trade, included in the Doha Ministerial Declaration, particularly the amendments to the TRIPS Agreement so that in the intellectual property regulations there is adequate support for the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as the trade-related aspects of Intellectual Property Rights and Public Health with a view to addressing the problems that affect many developing countries.

As for the liberalization of investments, the NAM leaders have expressed the need to encourage greater direct investment, including foreign investment, in developing countries with a view to supporting their development activities. They have also encouraged the concretization of more investments for the expansion and improvement of the infrastructure facilities in developing countries.

The international community must continue to support the efforts of the developing countries aimed at integrating the principles of sustainable development into their national development strategies. We are pleased that one of the priorities of the German Presidency of the G-8 is the issue of climate change and energy efficiency.

The NAM emphasizes the need to undertake actions and adopt concrete measures at all levels in order to ensure the full implementation of Program 21 and the Johannesburg Implementation Program, in conformity with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities outlined in Principle 7 of the Rio Declaration on the Environment and Development.

It is imperative to honor the commitments entered into at the international level to face environmental deterioration. The most recent scientific testimonies confirm that the future of our planet is threatened and bound to endure serious catastrophes on account of

the effects of global climate change. There is no question that the main effect would be on the populations of the developing countries, which lack the necessary physical infrastructure and resources to cope with the impact of those real and increasingly closer dangers.

All States, particularly the industrialized nations, must take the necessary measures to reduce, in the agreed terms, their levels of emissions of greenhouse gases, responsible for the accelerated global warming. The initiatives aimed at transferring the burden of reduction from the developed countries to the developing nations would entail an evasion of international commitments and disregard for the principle of common but differentiated responsibility.

It is vital that we work in the framework of truthful and genuine international multilateral cooperation, based on the principles of solidarity, complementation and mutual benefits. In this sense, we welcome the convening of a United Nations High-Level Conference for 24 September 2007, which can become an auspicious forum for the universal debate on climate change and for the adoption of urgent measures aimed at fighting off its effects.

On the issue of energy, the NAM highlights the urgency of diversifying the supply of energy by developing advanced technologies that contribute less contamination and are more efficient, accessible and cost-effective, particularly those technologies for the utilization of fossil fuels and renewable energy sources, including hydroelectric energy, transferring them to the developing countries under mutually agreed favorable conditions, including concessionary and preferential ones. Energy policies must underpin the efforts of the developing countries to eradicate poverty. Also, the necessary search for alternative sources of energy must not compromise the fight against worldwide famine.

The Non-Aligned Movement is pleased with the emphasis that the G-8 Summit will put on Africa's economic development. We are concerned that the economic situation in Africa continues to be precarious despite the decisive role played by this continent and the African people in the world economy for centuries.

We recognize that in addressing the special needs of Africa, there must also be direct support for the programs that the African leaders have put in place in the context of the New Economic Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), which embodies the collective determination and commitment of the African governments and peoples to take control of their future development and take on the pressing task of fighting poverty, guiding their countries down the path to sustainable socio-economic development.

In this sense, it is imperative that the international community, particularly the developed countries, increase the allocation of resources for the implementation of projects and programs identified in various sectors, cancel all the debts of the African countries, adopt practical measures for its immediate application and double Africa's development assistance, among other measures. That support is crucial to promote regional integration and development and for the attainment of the internationally agreed development objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals, which are essential for Africa's sustained economic growth and sustainable development.

It is also fitting to convey to you the positions and viewpoints of the Non-Aligned Movement on some of the fundamental issues on the international political agenda, to which we are convinced the G-8 also attaches top priority and which most certainly will be examined at the Summit in Heiligendamm or in subsequent meetings during the German Presidency.

The NAM is profoundly concerned about the existing difficult and complex situation in terms of international disarmament and security, and has urged the international community to renew its efforts with a view to ending the current stalemate and achieving nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects.

The Movement has reiterated the threat posed to humanity by the permanent existence of nuclear weapons and its possible use or threat to use them. In this sense, it has highlighted the need for the nuclear States to honor the unequivocal commitment that they entered into in 2000 to work towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

The non-aligned countries continue to be profoundly concerned about the existence of strategic defence doctrines that not only bring about justifications to the use or the threat to use nuclear weapons but that also uphold unjustifiable concepts on international security based on the promotion and development of military alliances and policies of nuclear deterrence. They have also reiterated that the improvement of the existing nuclear weapons and the development of new types of these weapons by certain nuclear powers violate the commitments entered into by the nuclear States during the signing of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

The NAM reiterates its commitment to the successful outcome of the 8th Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference in 2010 — and expresses its willingness to work together with the G-8 countries in accomplishing this objective, both at the Review Conference itself and during the preparatory process that started in 2007.

On the related issue of nuclear technology, the NAM reaffirms the fundamental and inalienable right of all States to develop the research, production and utilization of nuclear energy with peaceful purposes, without discrimination and in conformity with their respective legal obligations. The Movement recognizes that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is the only competent authority to verify compliance with the obligations entered into under the respective safeguards agreements of the Member States and emphasizes that there must not be any undue pressure or interference in the body's activities that may jeopardize its efficiency and credibility.

The NAM firmly believes that peaceful diplomacy and dialogue must continue, and the negotiations should resume without any prior conditions, in order to find a long-term solution to the Iranian nuclear issue.

It also reiterates its firm condemnation of all unilateral military actions, including those conducted without the proper authorization of the United Nations Security Council, as well as of the threats of military action against the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of the member States of the Movement, which are acts of aggression and flagrant violations of the principles of non-intervention and non-interference.

The NAM strongly and unmistakably condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as well as all acts, methods and practices of terrorism wherever these are committed, by whoever commits them, committed against anybody, including those acts in which the States are directly or indirectly involved, which are unjustifiable, whatever the considerations or factors invoked to justify them.

The Movement is firmly convinced that multilateral cooperation under the auspices of the United Nations and in strict adherence to the principles enshrined in its Charter and in International Law, is the most efficient means to fight international terrorism. We hope that in examining this issue, the G-8 leaders take into account its complexity and agree on the usefulness and necessity to convene an international summit conference under the aegis

of the UN in order to draft a joint harmonized response from the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and to determine its fundamental root causes.

The solution to the Palestinian issue continues to be a high priority for the Non-Aligned Movement, which firmly supports the Palestinian people and its leadership and calls for the revitalization of the peace process towards the attainment of a general, just and lasting solution allowing the Palestinian people to exercise its inalienable right to self-determination in an independent and sovereign Palestinian State, with East Jerusalem as its capital.

The NAM strongly condemns the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories and the relentless aggression by Israel, the occupying power, against the Palestinian people, which has resulted, among other things, in the ongoing slaughter of and injuries to civilian Palestinians for the excessive and inordinate use of force, selective attacks and extrajudicial executions, the widespread destruction of properties, infrastructure and farmland and the detention and imprisonment of thousands of Palestinians.

The NAM demands that Israel, the occupying power, cease the illegal construction of a wall in the occupied Palestinian territory. In this sense, it condemns the flagrant challenge and disrespect by Israel for the Consultative Opinion of the International Court of Justice of 9 July 2004, on the "Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory" and its ongoing violation of UNGA Resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004.

The NAM welcomed the formation of the Palestinian Government of National Unity in March 2007, as a result of the Mecca Agreement. The formation of the new government is a signal of the unity of the Palestinian people in these difficult moments.

The Movement believes that at present there is a real opportunity to resume the peace process in the Middle East, in order to achieve a peaceful solution, and calls upon the international community to discharge its responsibility so as not to lose this opportunity.

We deplore the fact the Palestinian people continues to suffer as a result of the blockade of international assistance imposed over a year ago and still in place. While attention is focused on the attempts to revitalize the peace process and the measures adopted by the new Palestinian Government, it is not possible to ignore the serious situation on the ground. In such situation prevails, most certainly any progress that can be made will come to a halt.

We call upon the Government of Israel to accept the Arab Peace Initiative and resume a process of serious and direct negotiations on all fronts.

The NAM will continue to support and contribute to the extent possible to the attainment of just, complete and lasting peace in the Middle East, based on all relevant UN resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, the principle of Territory for Peace, the Arab Peace Initiative and the Road Map. We are looking forward to working together with the G-8 leaders, some of whom are members of the Quartet for the implementation of the Road Map, in order to achieve this long-yearned objective of the international community.

In reiterating the principled position of the Non-Aligned Movement on the war in Iraq, we encourage respect for the independence, sovereignty, security, territorial integrity and stability of Iraq and its neighboring countries. We express our profound concern for

the prevailing security situation there, which has become a destabilizing factor for Iraq and the region as a whole, in addition to being a source of more suffering for the Iraqi people. We will do everything within our reach, on the basis of the principles and purposes enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, in order to help the Iraqi people put an end to foreign occupation, restore the sovereignty and independence of Iraq and regain control over its rights, land and economic, political and security institutions.

Finally, I would like to reiterate the NAM's best wishes for a successful G-8 Summit and the German Presidency, while conveying the Movement's willingness to consider the most viable options to facilitate and increase a fruitful dialogue and exchange between both groupings, enabling developing countries to voice their interests and concerns so that these are taken into account before decisions are made that affect them directly.

I would like to avail myself of this opportunity, Excellency, to renew the assurances of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

Felipe **Pérez Roque**